

Decision No: CMM – 8

Forward Plan No: N/A

This record relates to Agenda Item 56 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: COUNCILLOR LIZ WAKEFIELD

PORTFOLIO AREA: HOUSING

SUBJECT: COUNCIL HOUSING NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY

AUTHOR: BECKY PURNELL

THE DECISION

- (1) That the contents of the policy and relevant policies and procedures are noted.
- (2) That the proposed Council Housing Neighbourhood Policy, as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

- (1) A neighbourhood policy is required under the regulatory requirements and this provides Housing and Social inclusion with an opportunity to highlight our commitment to developing sustainable communities and improving the environment, and to bring together our policies and procedures together into one place.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- (1) It is a legal requirement of the regulator to have a neighbourhood policy.
- (2) If the council did not have a neighbourhood policy the quality of our neighbourhood and estates management could decline leading to the deterioration of the quality of our stock, an increase in anti social behaviour, reduced opportunities for residents to monitor the quality of our services, and reduced opportunities for residents to improve the quality of their lives. There would also be a risk that our partnership working on this agenda could decline.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision

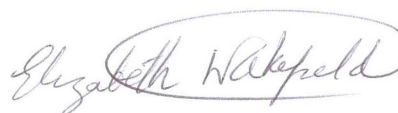
Date:

01 December 2011

Decision Maker:

Councillor Liz Wakefield
Cabinet Member for Housing

Signed:



Proper Officer:

01 December 2011

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny 'Call-In' provisions.

Call-In Period
8 December 2011

Date of Call-in (*if applicable*) (*this suspends implementation*)

Call-in Procedure completed (*if applicable*)

Call-in heard by (*if applicable*)

Results of Call-in (*if applicable*)

Decision No: CMM – 9

Forward Plan No: HSG 14247

This record relates to Agenda Item 57 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: COUNCILLOR LIZ WAKEFIELD

PORTFOLIO AREA: HOUSING

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
- COUNCIL HOUSING LAND

AUTHOR: GRAHAM PAGE

THE DECISION

- (1) That the new Grounds Maintenance Policy which has been developed by the Estate Services Monitoring Group (ESMG) be approved.
- (2) That a rolling programme of site by site grounds maintenance reviews be approved.
- (3) That the continuation of current arrangements with City Parks for grounds maintenance services be approved.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

- (1) The arrangements for City Parks to maintain housing land is working well and as a result of this review officers are satisfied that this option provides the best Value for Money for residents and the council.
- (2) An ongoing programme of grounds maintenance review allows residents to be involved in decisions about their local environment and the extent to which they want to be involved or pay a service charge for this service to be provided.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- (1) The Project officer is a member of the HouseMark Performance Improvement and some preliminary investigations have been undertaken to benchmark grounds maintenance service against other local authorities. However, this is proving difficult as authorities do not provide, measure or cost services consistently. As we have developed close links with Crawley BC by reciprocating resident inspections of our estates we will utilise this opportunity to look at benchmarking our grounds maintenance and estate service against theirs
- (2) Residents to take over the management of all Grounds Maintenance on housing sites. Residents have not expressed interest so far. Local Management Agreement is piloting this approach. Could be considered for the future if resident want this.
- (3) Contracting out to another organisation. Residents have not expressed an interest in this option, but could in the future. The advantages of keeping it 'in house' are the economies of scale, consistency and continuity of service across council owned land. City Parks as a whole has been subject to its own tendering process.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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Call-In Period

8 December 2011

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CMM – 10

Forward Plan No: N/A

This record relates to Agenda Item 58 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: COUNCILLOR LIZ WAKEFIELD
PORTFOLIO AREA: HOUSING
SUBJECT: ADVERSE WEATHER POLICY 2011
AUTHOR: ALAN SMITH

THE DECISION

- (1) That the Housing & Social Inclusion – Council Housing Adverse Weather Policy 2011 be approved for publication and implementation.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

- (1) To identify the appropriate actions that will be taken by Housing & Social Inclusion during severe weather conditions effecting employees, tenants, contractors and members of the public.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- (1) The consequences of no action could potentially have lasting repercussions with a particular focus on the vulnerable with the potential of isolation and risk to health and well being
- (2) We could explore further developing the partnership with the community payback service and request that they redirect their service during adverse weather.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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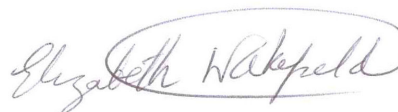
Date:

01 December 2011

Decision Maker:

Councillor Liz Wakefield
Cabinet Member for Housing

Signed:



Proper Officer:

01 December 2011

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



SCRUTINY

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Call-In Period

8 December 2011

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CMM – 11

Forward Plan No: N/A

This record relates to Agenda Item 59 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET MEMBER DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: COUNCILLOR LIZ WAKEFIELD

PORTFOLIO AREA: HOUSING

SUBJECT: OPPORTUNITY FOR MANOR PLACE HOUSING OFFICE TO MOVE TO THE WHITEHAWK HUB

AUTHOR: ODODO DAFE

THE DECISION

- (1) That approval be given for the tenancy management housing service to move from the Manor Place Housing Office to the Whitehawk Hub.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

- (1) To enable the tenancy management service provided from the Manor Place Housing Office to be relocated to Whitehawk Hub, and for the cash desk facility to be closed, leading to a range of benefits which include the following:
- Co-location of staff with key public services in the area – improving access for customers using the various services
 - Provide opportunities for improved joint working
 - Modernise our rent payment options in line with major housing providers, and reduce transactional costs
 - Minimise the financial and sustainability costs of office accommodation that does not provide value for money.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- (1) The alternative is for no action, and for staff to remain at the Manor Place Housing Office. The empty office space could be offered to other services that might be able to contribute to the running costs of the building or to voluntary sector organisations so that the space is used. However this option would not realise the benefits outlined in paragraph 7.1 below

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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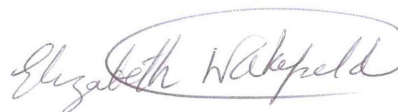
Date:

01 December 2011

Decision Maker:

Councillor Liz Wakefield
Cabinet Member for Housing

Signed:



Proper Officer:

01 December 2011

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



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Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Brighton & Hove City Council